

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An image processing apparatus, comprising:

a first converter that subjects an image data to a ~~first~~ low-resolution image conversion to thereby generate a first image data;

a second converter that subjects the first image data to a ~~second~~ high-resolution image conversion to thereby generate a second image data;

an arithmetic unit that conducts an arithmetic operation ~~on~~ to obtain a difference between the first image data and the second image data to thereby generate a third image data;

a compressor that compresses the third image data to thereby generate a compressed image data; and

an embedding unit that embeds the compressed image data in the first image data.

Claim 2 (Original): The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first conversion includes widening a spatial quantization width, and the second conversion includes narrowing the spatial quantization width.

Claim 3 (Original): The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first conversion includes widening a color spatial quantization width, and the second conversion includes narrowing the color spatial quantization width.

Claim 4 (Original): The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first conversion includes widening a time quantization width, and the second conversion includes narrowing the time quantization width.

Claim 5 (Original): The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the embedding unit embeds the compressed image data in the image data using electronic watermark technology.

Claim 6 (Original): The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an outputting unit that outputs, as an image file in a predetermined format, the first image data in which the embedding unit has embedded the compressed image data.

Claim 7 (Original): The image processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the arithmetic operation includes subtracting the second image data from the image data.

Claims 8-10 (Canceled)

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The image processing apparatus according to claim 8, further comprising:

a embedding determiner that determines whether embedded data has been embedded in the image data; and

a selector that receives the converted image data, the ~~compressed-embedded data~~ output of the arithmetic unit, and ~~result~~ results of a determination from the embedding determiner, and outputs the ~~converted image data~~ output of the arithmetic unit when the result of determination indicates that embedded data has been embedded in the image data and outputs the ~~compressed-embedded~~ converted image data when the result of determination indicates that embedded data has not been embedded in the image data.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The image processing apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the arithmetic operation includes adding the converted image data and the ~~compressed~~ decompressed embedded data.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A method of processing image data, the method being carried out by an image processing apparatus that transmits the image data processed to other apparatus, comprising:

generating an image data;

subjecting the image data to a ~~first~~ low-resolution image conversion to thereby generate a first image data;

subjecting the first image data to a ~~second~~ high-resolution image conversion to thereby generate a second image data;

conducting an arithmetic operation ~~on~~ to obtain a difference between the first image data and the second image data to thereby generate a third image data;

compressing the third image data to thereby generate a compressed image data; and
embedding the compressed image data in the first image data.

Claim 14 (Canceled)

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A computer-readable recording medium that records a computer program that makes a computer process an image data and transmit the image data processed to other apparatus, the computer program making the computer execute:

generating an image data;

subjecting the image data to a ~~first~~ low-resolution image conversion to thereby generate a first image data;

subjecting the first image data to a ~~second~~ high-resolution image conversion to
thereby generate a second image data;

conducting an arithmetic operation ~~on~~ to obtain a difference between the first image
data and the second image data to thereby generate a third image data;

compressing the third image data to thereby generate a compressed image data; and
embedding the compressed image data in the first image data.

Claim 16 (Canceled)